

Amendments To The Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0052] In one aspect, to avoid the problem with searching across multiple languages, a “case folding” algorithm is implemented (e.g., in an application server) that converts each string custom field value to a universal case insensitive format. One such case folding algorithm is an algorithm defined by the Unicode Consortium in the Unicode 4.0 standard, section 3.13 - Caseless Matching (<http://www.unicode.org/versions/Unicode4.0.0/ch03.pdf>), hereby incorporated by reference, which is a tabular lookup function that converts characters to a form that is binary comparable independent of case for all languages that have a concept of case. Whenever values in the original custom field column are searched, the SQL instead filters on the corresponding case-folded indexed column after performing the same case folding operation on the literal being searched. Dates need not be modified from their YYYYMMDD format, which is also included in the index (unmodified) as text.